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**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for managing access to resources, the method comprising:  
granting a process a security identifier, wherein the security identifier has no meaning outside of being used to make an access decision for a specific resource;  
and  
responsive to the process requesting access to the specific resource, generating the access decision based on the security identifier.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on a path of execution.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on an identity of the process and a second process invoked by the process.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the granting step includes:  
setting the security identifier a an access control list operation.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
changing the security identifier in response to the process invoking a selected resource.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating step includes:

using the security identifier as an identity in an access control list to identify a right to the specific resource.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the security identifier is a right in an access control list.

8. A data processing system for managing access to resources, the data processing system comprising:

granting means for granting a process a security identifier, wherein the security identifier has no meaning outside of being used to make an access decision for a specific resource; and

generating means responsive to the process requesting access to the specific resource, for generating the access decision based on the security identifier.

9. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on a path of execution.

10. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on an identity of the process and a second process invoked by the process.

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11. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the granting means includes:

setting means for setting the security identifier as an access control list operation.

12. The data processing system of claim 8 further comprising:

changing means for changing the security identifier in response to the process invoking a selected resource.

13. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the generating means includes:

using means for using the security identifier as an identity in an access control list to identify a right to the specific resource.

14. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the security identifier is a right in an access control list.

15. A computer program product in a computer readable medium in a data processing system for managing access to resources, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for granting a process a security identifier, wherein the security identifier has no meaning outside of being used to make an access decision for a specific resource; and

second instructions responsive to the process requesting access to the specific resource, for generating the access decision based on the security identifier.

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16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on a path of execution.

17. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the object access identifier is granted based on an identity of the process and a second process invoked by the process.

18. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the first instructions includes:  
sub-instructions for setting the security identifier a an access control list operation.

19. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:  
third instructions for changing the security identifier in response to the process invoking a selected resource.

20. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the second instructions includes:  
sub-instructions for using the security identifier as an identity in an access control list to identify a right to the specific resource.

21. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the security identifier is a right in an access control list.

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22. A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to grant a process a security identifier, wherein the security identifier has no meaning outside of being used to make an access decision for a specific resource; and generate the access decision based on the security identifier responsive to the process requesting access to the specific resource.